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**Introduced by Senator Nguyen**  
**(Coauthors: Senators Hall and Lara)**  
(Coauthor: Assembly Member O'Donnell)

January 27, 2016

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 102—Relative to the Joan Lind Van Blom Memorial Bridge.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 102, as introduced, Nguyen. Joan Lind Van Blom Memorial Bridge.

This measure would designate a specified bridge on State Highway Route 1 in the City of Long Beach as the Joan Lind Van Blom Memorial Bridge. The measure would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost for appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1       WHEREAS, Joan Lind Van Blom was the first woman to win  
2       an Olympic medal for the United States in rowing, winning a silver  
3       medal in the single sculls at the 1976 Olympic Games in Montreal  
4       and in the quadruple sculls at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los  
5       Angeles, and was a member of the team that boycotted the 1980  
6       Moscow Olympic Games; and  
7       WHEREAS, Joan Lind Van Blom won 14 national titles during  
8       her career, holds 11 world records on the indoor ergometer, and  
9       medaled internationally as a coach in the Pan American Games;  
10      and

1 WHEREAS, Joan Lind Van Blom motivated students to live  
2 healthy and active lives; and

3 WHEREAS, Joan Lind Van Blom had a 35-year career, retiring  
4 in 2012, with the Long Beach Unified School District as a physical  
5 education teacher and curriculum leader, and was instrumental in  
6 securing a million-dollar grant for rowing machines in each of the  
7 school district's nine high schools; and

8 WHEREAS, Joan Lind Van Blom taught educators how to teach  
9 students to enjoy an active lifestyle and her Facebook page has  
10 countless entries from fellow competitors, educators, and friends  
11 sharing their appreciation for her gentle guidance over the years;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, On August 21, 2013, at the Pete Archer Rowing  
14 Center, Joan Lind Van Blom collapsed after an indoor rowing  
15 session and was diagnosed with glioblastoma multiforme, the most  
16 aggressive form of brain cancer; and

17 WHEREAS, While fighting the disease, she continued to be a  
18 role model of grace and style by sharing memories with friends  
19 and expressing gratitude to those she teamed with, taught, and  
20 came in contact with; and

21 WHEREAS, Joan Lind Van Blom died the morning of Friday,  
22 August 28, 2015; and

23 WHEREAS, Joan Lind Van Blom was inducted in the Wilson  
24 High School, Long Beach State 49er, Century Club, and National  
25 Rowing halls of fame and was declared a lifetime member of the  
26 Long Beach Rowing Association, marking her never-ending  
27 achievement in advocacy for the sport and healthy living; and

28 WHEREAS, For all her accomplishments, dedication to rowing,  
29 and contributions to the sport's growth, in December 2014, at the  
30 USRowing Annual Awards Reception in Jacksonville, Florida,  
31 Joan Lind Van Blom was named the recipient of the 2014  
32 USRowing Ernestine Bayer Award, formerly Woman of the Year,  
33 which recognizes outstanding contributions to women's rowing  
34 or to an outstanding woman in rowing; and

35 WHEREAS, On March 7, 2015, the Beach Crew Alumni  
36 Association dedicated a women's Resolute 8+ racing shell as the  
37 Joan Lind Van Blom; and

38 WHEREAS, Joan Lind Van Blom is survived by her husband  
39 of 30 years, Long Beach State 49er hall of fame member John Van

1 Blom; their son, John Jr.; and her sisters Loretta Madsen and Carol  
2 Hansen; now, therefore, be it

3 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
4 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates the  
5 bridge on State Highway Route 1 south of Loynes Drive and north  
6 of East 2nd Street, in the City of Long Beach as the Joan Lind Van  
7 Blom Memorial Bridge; and be it further

8 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested  
9 to determine the cost of erecting appropriate signs, consistent with  
10 the signing requirements for the state highway system, showing  
11 this special designation and, upon receiving donations from  
12 nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs; and be it  
13 further

14 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
15 this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author  
16 for appropriate distribution.